

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON**

University of London

**EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS**

For The Following Qualification:–

*B.A.*

**Scand. Studs. SC3730: Sources For The Viking Age I**

**COURSE CODE : SCAN3730**

**UNIT VALUE : 0.50**

**DATE : 12-MAY-06**

**TIME : 10.00**

**TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours**

**Answer QUESTION 1 and TWO OTHER QUESTIONS. All questions carry equal marks.**

**A candidate may not in any answer cover the same ground as in an assessed essay. Avoid any duplication of material within this paper.**

1. Choose THREE of the following topics in Viking-Age historiography; briefly explain what, in your view, are the best Scandinavian written sources for the history of each topic, and why.
  - (a) Social structures in mainland Scandinavia
  - (b) Warfare
  - (c) Kingship
  - (d) The Conversion of Iceland to Christianity
  - (e) The Vikings in England
  - (f) The place of women in society
  
2. How reliable is the version of early Icelandic history that Ari Porgilsson gives us in *Íslendingabók*?
  
3. To what extent is the book-prose / free-prose debate about the origins of the *Íslendingasögur* still relevant to historians of the Viking Age?
  
4. How should we go about making the best possible use of Viking-Age runic inscriptions as a source for the history of the period?
  
5. Define the term 'The Viking Age'. Explain the reasoning behind your definition.
  
6. Discuss the interrelationships between any THREE medieval Icelandic AND / OR Norwegian *konungasögur*. What are the implications of these interrelationships for the modern historian?